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Rubi Hills, had engagements of some sort with the insurgents, failed to entrap Maceo, and came back to Havana, where many wounded Spanish officers and men have been arriving. He has now taken the field again, but his plans are not revealed. There have been reports of disagreement among the insurgent leaders, but they are probably without foundation. Consul-General Lee, who has returned to this country, has made his report to the President, recommending, it is said, the recognition by the United States of Cuban independence. This rumor has increased indignation in Spain against the United States. President Cleveland continues faithfully to maintain the policy of neutrality to which this country is bound by the law of nations. Spain is evidently at the end of her wits about the insurrection. Women are selling their jewels in order to provide the government with money, which it has succeeded with great difficulty in getting in sufficient quantities to meet present demands. The wretched war has gone on now for nearly two years. It seems that it must close soon from sheer exhaustion, but no one can tell when it will end. The passion of hate is not only tenacious but fertile in inventions.

Secretary of War Lamont has just made his annual report. The expenditures of the department for the year ended June 30 last were \$51,803,298.62. The appropriations for the current year are \$54,044,244.20. The number of enlisted men on October 31 was 25,426. He again recommends the reorganization of the infantry on the three battalion regiment plan. He claims that there is pressing need for more artillerists to man the new batteries in the defensive works. The health of the troops has been exceptionally good, that of the cadets at West Point exceptionally bad on account of the use of unfiltered water. Officers of the army have given instruction in 106 schools and colleges during the year. 9760 students have attended the infantry drills, and 1376 the artillery. *The system has made steady progress*, he reports. The general government ought to make appropriations to put the national guard on a better footing. The guard now numbers 111,887 men. The development of the sea coast defences is going steadily forward. Work has progressed during the year on the battlefield parks at Chattanooga, Gettysburg, Shiloh and Antietam.

The Behring Sea claims commission is sitting at Victoria, B. C. The British claims for damages have all been filed before it and are now being examined.

There is still time for ministers to get literature for preparation of sermons for Peace Sunday, the 20th inst. Send a few stamps to pay postage.

Subscribe for the ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

BOSTON, Nov. 23, 1896.

HON. RICHARD OLNEY, Secretary of State.

Dear Sir—The Board of Directors of the American Peace Society at their regular meeting today instructed us to convey to you an expression of their profound gratification that an agreement has at last been reached by which the entire question of the Venezuela and British Guiana boundary is to be referred to peaceful, impartial, judicial arbitration. The Board feels that this grand consummation is due in large measure to the signal ability, the clear insight and the patient firmness with which since January last you as Secretary of State have conducted the diplomatic correspondence regarding the subject, in which you have so fully represented and clearly interpreted the earnest wish of the great body of the American people.

The Board, further, ventures to express the hope that the negotiations for a permanent treaty, providing for judicial arbitration, between the United States and Great Britain, which have already made such hopeful progress, may be pushed to a like happy consummation before the close of the present administration. The Venezuela agreement has, it seems to us, removed the last remaining objection to such a treaty and left the minds of the people in a most excellent mood to receive it. Our observation leads us to believe that the conclusion of such a treaty is not only demanded by the intelligent citizenship of both nations, but that it will be enthusiastically welcomed as a most fitting expression of the conviction of the whole English-speaking people that their highest welfare, both material and moral, demands that their relations be put upon a basis to assure permanent peace.

We beg you to accept our sincere respect.

ROBERT TREAT PAINE, President.

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, }
Washington, Nov. 27, 1896. }

MESSRS. ROBERT TREAT PAINE, President,
BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD, Secretary,

The American Peace Society, 3 Somerset St., Boston,
Mass.

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to acknowledge your note of the 23d instant, and to express my appreciation of the complimentary terms in which you speak of the settlement of the Venezuela and British Guiana boundary question.

Very truly yours, RICHARD OLNEY.

MILITARY MEN AND WAR.

Considerable surprise was expressed at the time of the Peace meetings recently held at Buda-Pesth that General Türr, who has been all his life a military man, should now be in the ranks of peace men and chosen as president of a peace congress. Because of this expression, he published in the "Oriental and Hungarian Review" for the 4th of October, the following extremely valuable article setting forth his reasons for the course which he has taken:

"I have passed the fiftieth anniversary of my entrance upon the military career. I was enrolled in 1842, and during this period of more than half a century I have taken part in many campaigns and a long series of battles. I have seen many nations engaged in war. I have seen the horrors and massacres of battle-fields in all their